[9th August 1929

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"Not at present."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—"Will the Government take any steps in the matter in view of the necessity of extending the workshop?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"We have yet to consider that question."

Action taken on the reports of the Special Officer in regard to Cottage Industries.

*155 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state the particulars of the action taken or proposed to be taken on the reports of the Special Officer in regard to Cottage Industries in the several districts where their survey has been completed?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 1339 in February 1929. The appendix to that answer contains a summary of the action taken till then on the recommendations of the Special Officer for the Survey of Cottage Industries on the Industries in the Ceded Districts and in the four southern districts. Further action taken with reference to these industries is indicated in Appendix A [a] while Appendix B[a] summarizes the action taken on some of the industries in the Malabar, South Kanara, the Nilgiris and Guntur districts. The Government considered it unnecessary to take up the reports of the remaining districts as by the time these reports were received by them the Presidency Report had been completed by the Special Officer and the district reports were found to contain few specific recommendations for the improvement or revival of local industries. The Government propose to deal with such points as call for action in these reports as well as the recommendations of the Special Officer which are of a general character and are common to all or most of the districts when examining the Presidency Report.

Mr. L. K. Tulasiram :—"May I ask whether the hon. Minister for Development will try to start some schools to demonstrate the feasibility of improving these cottage industries?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"My hon. Friend may be aware that a committee will be appointed in consequence of the resolution passed yesterday; that committee will consider such questions."

Mr. L. K. Tulasiram :—"I find that co-operative societies are being started for the development of several industries which have been recommended by the Special Officer. Apart from that, will the Government be pleased to state whether they intend to start schools for demonstrating that these industries can be easily started?"

The hon. the President :—"Before I admit the supplementary question, I wish to know whether it is one of the recommendations of the Special Officer."

Mr. L. K. Tulasiram :—"It is one of the recommendations made by the Special Officer, Mr. President."

---

[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 425–428 infra.

9th August 1929]

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" In that case it is still more easy ; the committee will consider the question."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" May I know whether the Government have considered the question of encouraging hand-spinning and hand-weaving of cotton as cottage industries and what conclusion they have come to ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" They are considering the whole matter. They have not come to any conclusions."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" With reference to the suggestion made in the valuable report sent by the Special Officer, Mr. Narayana Rao, at page 5 of the last general report, may I ask what action the Government are taking on the suggestion that the definition of cottage industries given by the Government has too narrow a scope and should be amplified so that something good may be done to cottage industries ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question does not arise."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I know the reason why the Government are following a discriminating policy of taking action only on the report with regard to four districts and not with regard to the other districts ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Because those reports were received first."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the Government have come to any conclusion with regard to hand-spinning and weaving ? The hon. Minister said that they have not come to any conclusion as yet. The Special Officer makes abundant reference to this industry in the report. The answer does not indicate what action the Government have taken on those proposals."

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" The Committee will go into the question."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I ask if the hon. Minister has read the reports ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" I am presumed to have read the reports."

Progress of the survey of cottage industries.

*156 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) how far the survey of cottage industries has now progressed ; and

(b) what steps Government contemplate to take to encourage cottage industries in various parts of the Presidency ?

A.—(a) The survey of all districts has been completed and the reports of the Special Officer including the final report for the Presidency have been placed on the table of the House.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 155.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I wish to know what action the Government have taken on the various suggestions of the Special Officer at page 5."

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" They will be referred to the Committee."